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SUBMIT DIRECTLY TO THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS IN 232 HART BUILDING

Purpose of Amendment (describe the reason for amending original submission): I did not submit a Private Sponsor Travel Certification, I did not submit a final trip itinerary

(Signature of Traveler)

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PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should NOT submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): St. Louis AgriBusiness Club
2. Description of the trip: The purpose will be to educate US Senate staffers about the agricultural industry from farm to fork relating to production, processing, and transportation of products to the consumer.
3. Dates of travel: Departure - Wednesday, August 21, 2019 Return - Friday, August 23, 2019
4. Place of travel: St. Louis, MO
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: see attached list
6. I certify that the trip fits one of the following categories:
 - ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
 - OR -
 - ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I certify that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
 - AND -
 - ☒ I certify that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I certify that:
 - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
 - AND -
 - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)

I certify that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

- OR -

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

- OR -

- ☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

The St. Louis AgriBusiness Club will be planning and organizing this event to educate US Senate staff members about the agricultural industry. The club developed the itinerary and is planning the speakers, meals, and discussion topics.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

To promote the positive impact of the agricultural industry in the Greater St. Louis region through educational, networking and professional development opportunities. Our mission is education

and networking which is the same purpose of this event.

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

Educational congressional staff tours have been provided by the St. Louis AgriBusiness Club starting in 1985 and every odd numbered year through 2005, then again starting in 2013 and continuing every other year after including 2015 and 2017.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

The club and its agribusiness members promote the positive impact of the agricultural industry in the greater St. Louis region through educational, networking and professional development opportunities.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	\$304 - Airfare, train, or car \$25 - Bus \$329 - Total	\$260 - 2 nights lodging	Wednesday - \$40 (lunch/dinner) Thursday - \$49 (breakfast/lunch/dinner) Friday - \$30 (breakfast/lunch) Total - \$119	None

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b - The trip involves an event that is arranged and organized with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

With our club membership in the St. Louis region, we wanted staff members to network and meet
agribusiness industry representatives. Numerous agribusinesses are located in this region for tours.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Drury Plaza Hotel at the Arch, #2 South 4th Street, St. Louis, MO 63102

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The location is centrally located, is close to major modes of transportation, and has reasonable rates.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Lodging is \$3 less than the \$133 allowable hotel rate per night. The federal allowable meal rate is \$66.

Wednesday's meals are \$26 below federal allowable rate. Thursday's meals are \$17 below federal allowable rate.

Friday's meals are \$36 below federal allowable rate

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Coach air travel to and from St. Louis. Transportation while in the St. Louis region will be by chartered, coach bus

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor:

Name and Title: Dean Dittmar, Executive Director

Name of Organization: St. Louis AgriBusiness Club

Address: 1105 Old Vincennes Trail, O'Fallon, IL 62269

Telephone Number: (618) 604-1622

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: stlouisagclub@gmail.com

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Attendees will see and hear about the important plant science research being done in the St. Louis region and its impact on the region's economy. They will also learn about why this is important to farmers in the agricultural industry and to consumers across the world developing plant science that will contribute to food security and allow farmers to use less resources in doing so. Tour will include the research facilities and labs at Danforth.

12:00-1:00 p.m. **Lunch at BRDG Park**

Panel Discussion: Matt Plummer, The Yield Lab
Melanie Bernds, Benson Hill Biosystems
Claire Kinlaw, Danforth Center
Phil Taylor, Bayer CropScience
Janet Wilding, 39 North

1:30-3:00 p.m. Boerding Farms Tour

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The group will be given the chance to tour the farm and crop fields and see the equipment utilized to plant, grow and harvest the crop. They will hear about the challenges farmers face and the many issues which impact farmers from trade to waterways infrastructure. They will also see how science plays an important role in the day-to-day operations of farmers.

Speakers: Jim, Dawn and Andrew Boerding

3:00-3:45 p.m. **Travel to Mel Price Lock and Dam**
1 Lock and Dam Way
East Alton, IL 62024

4:00-4:30 p.m. **Tour Mel Price Lock and Dam**

Melvin Price Locks and Dam is a dam and two locks at river mile 200 on the Upper Mississippi River. The collocated National Great Rivers Museum explains the structure and its engineering. We will learn about the importance of river infrastructure for navigation up and down the river.

Speaker: Corps of Engineers tour staff

4:30-6:30 p.m. **Boat and Barge Tour of Mel Price Lock and Dam**

The tour of Mel Price Lock and Dam and the boat tour of the Lock and Dam are designed to give staffers a view of waterways infrastructure and how the system operates. They will learn more about how products get up and down the river and the need for infrastructure improvements and investment on the River so farmers and businesses can stay competitive in a global market.

Speakers: Andy Schimpf, Army Corps of Engineers
Marty Hettel, Past Chair, Inland Waterways User Board
American Commercial Barge Line
Adam Jones, farmer from Old Monroe, Missouri

6:30-7:30 p.m. **Dinner**

8:00 p.m. **Drop off at Hotel for check-in**

Thursday, August 22

8:15 a.m. **Bus arrives at Drury Plaza Hotel St. Louis at the Arch**
2 South 4th St.
St. Louis, MO 63102

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. **Travel to Bunge-SCF Terminal**
651 N. Front St.
East St. Louis, IL 62201

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. **Travel to Bunge-SCF Terminal**
651 N. Front St.
East St. Louis, IL 62201

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. Tour Bunge Elevator

Bunge-SCF Grain is a joint venture between Bunge North America and SCF Agri/Fuels LLC. Bunge North America buys, sells, stores and transports grain and oilseeds to customers worldwide. SEACOR holdings, a subsidiary of SCF Agri/Fuels LLC specializes in the purchase, storage, transportation and sale of agricultural and energy commodities.

With the confluence of the Mississippi, Illinois and Missouri Rivers, St. Louis is a hub for river transportation. Agriculture exports 1/3rd of its products, so an efficient transportation system and well-maintained infrastructure is essential to agriculture's success and getting food to hungry people.

The group will see firsthand how grain moves from farmer's grain trucks to river terminals and on to barges to be sent across the world.

Speaker: Weston Horberg, Bunge
Brett Caplice, Bunge

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 **Travel to National Corn-To-Ethanol Research Center**
400 University Park Dr.
Edwardsville, IL 62025

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Tour of National Corn-To-Ethanol Research Center

The NCERC is a not-for-profit research center that conducts research and findings for industrial and institutional clients. Their mission is to facilitate the commercialization of new technologies for producing fuel ethanol more effectively.

The Center's clients receive validation of technologies that enhance the economics and sustainability of renewable fuel production, and bioprocessing scale-up.

The group will receive a tour of the research facilities and learn more of the impact the ethanol industry has for farmers, drivers and the environment. Ethanol is one of the top markets for corn farmers and contributes greatly to lowering greenhouse gas emissions and fuel prices, while providing fuel security for the United States. The group will hear more about the policies and regulations affecting the ethanol industry.

Speaker: NCERC Staff

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch and Speakers

Panel discussion: Paul Jeschke, Illinois Corn Growers Association
Jim Baumann, National Corn Growers Association
Matt Amick, Missouri Corn Growers Association

Speaker: Dan Sprague, The Maschoffs

The Maschoffs are the largest independent hog producers in the United States. Mr. Sprague will give an overview of The Maschoffs company and some of the issues involved in the hog industry right now.

1:30-2:30 p.m. Travel to Elm Farms
15542 Bottom Prairie Rd.
Okawville, IL 62271

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Tour Elm Farms

Elm Farms consists of a hog, dairy and row crops operation. This diverse agricultural operation will allow attendees to get a firsthand look at livestock production and how row crops, like soybeans and corn, fit into that operation.

At Elm Farms, the staffers will see hog production, dairy production and crop operation. They will get to experience firsthand livestock production and will be allowed an opportunity to see the dairy cattle up close to get a feel for milk production. This will help provide educational opportunities to help them make better informed decisions about livestock issues.

Speaker: Nathan Hasheider, Elm Farms

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 Travel to Eckert's Farms
951 S. Green Mount Rd.
Belleville, IL 62220

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Eckert's Farm Tour

Eckert's Farms is a family-run fruit and vegetable farm which provides additional agritourism opportunities for the surrounding region. The farm has fresh, seasonal crops featured at four different locations.

Speaker: Chris Eckert, President, Eckert's Inc.

6 - 8 p.m. Dinner

8 – 8:45 p.m.

Travel to Drury Plaza Hotel St. Louis at the Arch
2 South 4th St.
St. Louis, MO 63102

7:30 a.m. **Bus arrives at Drury Plaza Hotel St. Louis at the Arch**
2 South 4th St.
St. Louis, MO 63102

7:45 a.m. **Travel to Nestle Purina**
2s Checkerboard Square
St. Louis, MO 63164

Headquartered in St. Louis, Nestle Purina was founded in 1894 and employs over 7,500 people in the U.S. and many more worldwide. Nestle Purina provides quality, nutritional products for pets while raising awareness for the welfare of pets and the needs of dogs, cats and other pets. Nestle Purina is considered a great place to work, even allowing employees to bring their pets into the offices every day.

The group will receive a tour of the Nestle Purina headquarters and hear presentations on the company, the challenges in their industry and how they strive to be sustainable.

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